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RURAL LEADERS, RADIO STATION DIRECTOR ARRESTED

PY141623 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0014 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Mendoza, 13 Jan (NA)--According to reliable sources, two rural leaders and the director of Tunuyan's Radio Manantiales were arrested today by the provincial police. The arrest seemed to be related to the strike staged by the farmers of Uco valley, supporting similar actions carried out by Rio Negro fruit farmers.

The report, which has not been officially confirmed, indicated that Uco Valley Rural Society Chairman Pedro Testa, Tunuyan Trade, Industrial and Agricultural Chamber Vice Chairman Francisco Carrascosa and Tunuyan's Radio Manantiales Director Fernando Rossi, were arrested between 0100 and 1500 today.

According to the sources the rural leaders were arrested at their residences and their arrests appear to be connected with the strike which the farmers of Tunuyan, San Carlos and Tupungato, counties of the Uco Valley, are staging.

As for Rossi, it seems that he was arrested because his radio station had broadcast reports on the farmers' strike.

There was an almost total lack of activities as of 1200 when the strike went into effect and even stores and shops remained, for the most part, closed.

Attempts at obtaining official confirmation of Testa, Carrascosa and Rossi's arrest from the headquarters of the provincial police yielded no results.

Release Demanded

PY141644 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Mendoza, 13 Jan (NA)--The National Business Union [Convocatoria Nacional Empresaria] (CONAE) tonight issued a communique addressed to the military junta calling for the "immediate release" of the three persons arrested today in this province, seemingly in connection with the stopage staged by Uco Valley farmers.

It was also reported that the Federation of Fruit Farmers of Rio Negro and Neuquen and Salta business associations have sent telegrams to Mendoza governor, Brig Gen Rolando Ghisani, (ret), also asking for the release of the rural leaders and the director of the radio station.

Leaders Released

PY141800 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1340 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Mendoza, 14 Jan (NA)--The two rural leaders and the director of the Manantiales radio station arrested yesterday in connection with the strike staged in the Uco Valley supporting the strike of Rio Negro and Neuquen fruit farmers, were released this morning, according to police sources.

In the meantime, it has been impossible to confirm the reported arrest of two other rural leaders, Jorge Salmazo and Aldo Novelly, secretary of the Rural Society and secretary of the Tunuyan Trade, Industrial and Agricultural Chamber, respectively.

COMMUNIST YOUTH FEDERATION LEADER ARRESTED

PY141458 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0148 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jan (NA)--Tonight the Communist Youth Federation reported that its leader, Jose Antonio Diaz, has been released. Antonio Diaz was the last of the six members of the federation still under arrest since 8 January when they delivered a document to the Apostolic Nunciature supporting the pope's mediation on the southern border conflict with Chile.

Several other persons representing the binational crusade for the peace with Chile were also arrested for the same act, but they were released last weekend.

PCA DEFINES STRATEGY FOR NATIONAL AGREEMENT

PY141756 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0044 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jan (NA)--Athos Fava, secretary general of the Communist Party of Argentina (PCA), today defined the strategy of his party to achieve "a democratic national agreement" with the participation of other political sectors, the union movement, the church and patriotic civilians and military.

The "basic program" advocated by the PCA to reach this agreement includes the lifting of the state of siege, the lifting of the prohibition on political activity and the end of "obstructions to the full normalization of the union movement and the peasant and business organizations, etc."

The PCA also demands the changing of the current economic policy "to safeguard the real interests of the people, the wealth of the nation and national sovereignty."

Fava stated this position today to the top PCA leadership. Regarding the appointment of Gen Roberto Viola as future president of the country, he said that this appointment is "a defeat for the reactionary sectors of the armed forces."

'MISSING' TERRORIST ARRESTED IN LOMAS DE ZAMORA

PY141742 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Jan 81 p 4

[Excerpts] Yesterday the office of the commander in chief of the army disclosed that a terrorist who several international organizations involved with the defense for human rights had reported as "missing" was arrested.

This information was disclosed through a communique released shortly after noon which reads as follows:

"The office of the commander in chief of the army informs the public of the arrest of terrorist Antonio Pedro Lepere on 20 December 1980 in Lomas de Zamora by members of the Buenos Aires Province police.

"A great quantity of arms and ammunitions as well as an significant quantity of explosives, which would have put a great part of the neighborhood in danger should they have exploded, and a great amount of subversive literature were found in his home.

"In order to cover up his activities and remain unpunished he managed to be reported as a 'missing' person. Several international organizations involved with the defense of human rights declared him missing, pointing out that he had disappeared in our country, when, in fact, he was hiding here where he carried out his terrorist activities."

GOVERNMENT TAKES HARD LINE ON LABOR UNREST

PY141935 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1606 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpts] La Paz, 14 Jan (LATIN)--The Bolivian military government has warned that it will use an "iron hand" in dealing with those labor sectors dissatisfied with the recent economic measures that have increased the cost of living. This warning was made last night by the president of the military junta, Gen Luis Garcia Meza, during a meeting with leaders of the public transport sector, who decided to observe the so-called economic "corrective" measures decreed on Friday.

The chief of state thanked the members of the transport sector for their support. Representatives of the sector stated that they have decided to give their "conditional" support to the measures, although they have a negative impact on the sector's income. The president, however, referred to other labor sectors, which have protested against the economic measures. He pointed out that "other corrective measures will be applied to those sectors with an iron hand and full force." The military government, which replaced former President Lidia Gueiler on 17 July 1980, has decided to face the country's economic crisis and on Friday announced the withdrawal of state subsidies on fuel and several other articles and decreed an increase in the cost of staples, public transportation in general and electricity.

Last night Labor Minister Gen Augusto Calderon admitted that 2 industrial centers in this capital and in Cochabamba, 430 km southeastern La Paz, went on strike to protest the new economic order. However, he termed the movements in the Masa textile factory in this capital and in the Manaco shoe factory in Chochabamba "illegal" and of a "political nature." In mentioning the workers' protests the minister stated that "more drastic and energic measures will be taken." General Calderon dismissed the possibility of a dialogue with the sectors protesting the measures.

Interior Minister Col Luis Arce Gomez, yesterday visited two important mining centers of the country, where he observed that the "corrective economic measures have not had a negative impact in the mines but, on the contrary, have been well received by the miners," according to today's issue of the local daily EL DIARIO. The press report adds that Colonel Arce Gomez visited the districts of Uncia, Llallagua and Siglo Veinte, which are the most important national mining centers located in the north of Potosi Department, 400 km south of La Paz. The interior minister stated that the "situation is completely normal throughout the nation."

NEW CHILEAN RAILWAY RATE INCREASE AFFECTS COUNTRY

PY130203 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Officials of the Industry and Commerce Ministry have stated that the Bolivian Government has not received any official notice from the Chilean Railway Company, which administers the Arica-Visviri line, that it will increase the freight rates for baggage, cargo and ore to and from Bolivia. According to the announcement published in the local press, notification of the freight increase was given to the customers of that railway company, and the increase will go into effect on 1 February this year.

The Industry and Commerce Ministry officials believe, however, that the Chilean Government decision to increase the freight rates of the Arica-Visviri railway line will compel the Bolivian Port Commission to hold a meeting in the next few days to study the effects of the increase for the trade and industry of the nation. It was also pointed out that the Anglo-Chilean company which administers the Oyahue-Antofagasta Railway also increased its rates 2 months ago without any previous consultation, and the Bolivian Port Commission recommended that the problem be studied by each of the Bolivian companies that uses the services of that railway line.

O ESTADO VIEWS NEW U.S. ATTITUDE ON LATIN AMERICA

PY142129 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Jan 81 p 3

'From the "Notes and Information" page: "Not To Nourish Illusions"]

[Text] The conduct of the Department of State under Gen Alexander Haig--if the U.S. Congress approves his appointment--will be different from that under his predecessors because the former NATO commander is aware of the importance the small and divided Latin American countries, particularly those in Central America, have for the United States as suppliers of some raw materials--not essential perhaps, but necessary for its thriving economy. In other words, the pendulum of the U.S. foreign policy toward Latin America will swing again and the Carter missionary style (which proved to be inept and frustrating) will be replaced by the hard and cold realism that was the characteristic of U.S. policy at the end of the last century and the beginning of this century. At that time, the national interests of the United States prevailed over the ideals of the liberators--not those of the founding fathers--and over the imagination of those who thought that European-style liberal democracies could be built upon the foundations of the oligarchic-militaristic alliance which still holds sway in Latin America today.

If that can be gathered from the statements made by Haig to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the conclusion can be made that the statements are at least good to dispel illusions about the future conduct of the Department of State. The defense of U.S. interests (calling for the strengthening of ties with Mexico and the recognition of the strategic importance of Central America and the Antilles) does not necessarily mean a return to the "big stick" period. After all, since F.D. Roosevelt completed the so-called "U.S. withdrawal" from Central America and the Antilles, the "big stick" policy can no longer be implemented, either because of the change in the thinking of the average American, or because of the new balance of forces in the world. It seems that Haig will change the idea that Latin America is a harmonious bloc which sometimes deserves attention and sometimes (most of the time) can just be filed away to wait for periods of greater good will. The former NATO commander showed that he at least understands that each Latin American country has a different reality and that it is useless to tailor general policies to deal with more than 20 different countries. So he wants to concentrate his attention on areas which traditionally have drawn the security, economic and even missionary interest of governments in Washington.

Haig's firmly expressed conviction that the Carter administration committed a serious strategic mistake by placing in the same bag countries as different as Brazil, Cuba, Libya and Kuwait--just because the bag had the marking third world on it--proves what we have said about his views on Latin America. For this general--if he actually takes over the Department of State--there will be no generous postures to be defended by the executive branch, because they can be overruled by the interests legitimately represented in congress. What can be expected from Haig, at least in the priority area for the security of the United States--in addition to the strengthening of friendship with Mexico, which amounts to the recognition of a democratic status for the Institutional Revolutionary Party--is a diplomatic attitude not too inclined to seek ideological solutions but which favors solutions closer to realpolitik, in other words, an effort to promote (we don't know how) the development of Central America so as to stave off internal terrorism and external adventurism.

With those priorities established, South America will again receive--unless we err in our interpretation--the same attention it did in the past, provided the relations of South American countries with the world power blocs undergo no alteration, that is, provided the solidarity of the inter-American system holds fast.

For the security of the United States, South America is important only to the extent that it is free from danger. Looking backward, we can see that the United States, as a government and a national power, only paid attention to South American countries whenever--in the middle of the subtle game through which British and U.S. private interests worked their way into the local governments trying to establish their commercial and economic supremacy in the continent up until the time when first the Third Reich and later the Comintern became complicating factors--the South American countries decided to vie among themselves for preferential treatment from the United States as a government and a national power. Therefore, unless our first analysis of Haig's statements to the U.S. Congress should be reviewed when the terms in which Haig referred to Latin America are better known, the first phase of the Reagan government will focus attention on the solution of problems Carter leaves behind in Europe, the Middle East and in Central America, which is after all as important for the United States as East Europe is for the Soviet Union. South America--including Brazil, as outlined in the Kissinger-Silveira memorandum--will be a question for a second phase, unless the overall Soviet policy in the Indian Ocean region and the adventurism of Castro and his followers should expand the area of concern for the security of the United States.

Everything indicates that we are facing the most naked realism. But when was Latin America, especially South America, treated in a more generous or idealistic manner?

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR SLOW TO DEVELOP

PY131037 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 11 Jan 81 p 14

[By correspondent Noemio Spinola]

[Excerpts] Brazilian observers who are familiar with trade issues between Brazil and the Soviet Union have noted the slowness with which the two countries develop projects of bilateral interest. An expert who did not want to be identified, who accompanied the Brazilian congressional delegation to the Soviet Union, stated that, ironically, Brazil might resort to Argentina to negotiate the sale of part of its cereals to the Soviet Union, if the future prospects of superharvests predicted in Brasilia are confirmed and the inevitable problems of storage take place.

Thus, we should not be surprised if Brazilian grains take a trip to Buenos Aires to be shipped to Soviet ports. Under these circumstances, the Bunge and Born Company would be in a better position to expand negotiations in Brazil than the very cooperatives of Brazilian producers. Bunge, one of the largest multinational companies in the grainsector, was begun by a family of Argentine origin.

Moreover, other observers feel that it would be very natural, because some influential circles close to Brazilian foreign policy are only interested in the financial results of the export operations. They base their arguments on Brazil's critical situation rather than Soviet foreign policy, because many feel that Brazil must consider other factors which are important for international relaxation and not directly criticize the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan or its positions on detente in the Third World. According to this line of thinking, Brazil would not be playing off Latin America against Western interests, and thus, having the size of a continent, would be acting in a much more prudent manner than the small Argentina.

Points such as these have been discussed among the congressmen who visited the Soviet Union, and in general, an adverse opinion has prevailed. Even Deputy Erasmo Dias, PDR Sao Paulo state, one of the hardliners within the regime, defended the theory of greater exchanges with the Soviet Union, with the exception that he always defended his ideological opposition to what is practiced here.

ENERGY MINISTER ANNOUNCES DELAY IN NUCLEAR PROGRAM

PY142051 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 11 Jan 81 p 14

[Text] Brasilia (O GLOBO)--Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals yesterday revealed that the 9 nuclear plants provided for in the nuclear program will begin operating only in the year 2000. This represents a 5-year delay in comparison to the timetable announced by the same minister at the end of 1979, when he gave assurances that the 9 plants would begin functioning by 1995.

Regarding the timetable for the implementation of the nuclear plants, the minister stated that "the 9 nuclear plants can be finished by 1995 and can begin operations by the year 2000."

The Superior Energy Council yesterday discussed the investment program in the nuclear sector, based on the budget (of 108 billion cruzeiros) approved by the Economic Development Council (CDE) last week. According to Cesar Cals, "it is a significant amount, because it represents 17 percent of the ministry's budget."

Hervasio de Carvalho, president of the National Nuclear Energy Council (CNEN), stated that the delay announced by the minister represents only an adjustment of the timetable in relation to the availability of resources in the country. After the petroleum crisis, Brazil had to review all its investment programs.

He said that the government is indeed accelerating the nuclear program since it is experiencing fewer reductions than programs in other sectors. The CNEN president stated that the revision of the timetable will not create any problem with the FRG, "because that country has also reduced its economic growth rate." He added that the new delay in the timetable of the nuclear program will not affect the absorption of technology.

FIGUEIREDO CONGRATULATES NEW PORTUGUESE PRESIDENT

PY150059 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] President Joao Baptisa Figueiredo has sent a message congratulating Gen Antonio Eanes, who took office as president of Portugal today.

This is the text of the message: Please accept the warm greetings I am conveying to you on behalf of the Brazilian people, government and myself as you assume office as president of Portugal. My most sincere wishes are that Portugal will continue to have peace, unity and prosperity under your presidency.

CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU BEGINS VISIT

PY150044 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Summary] President Joao Baptista Figueiredo met for 2 hours with Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau at Planalto Palace this morning. Later President Figueiredo treated the Canadian prime minister to a luncheon that was attended by 70 guests. At 1600 Trudeau met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, and later he granted a press conference.

PCCH LEADER CORVALAN GIVES INTERVIEW IN LIMA

PY122359 Paris AFP in Spanish 2320 GMT 11 Jan 81

[Text] Lima, 11 Jan (AFP)--Luis Corvalan, secretary general of the Chilean Communist Party (PCCh), stated here today that "there is a place for all political forces" in overthrowing Gen Augusto Pinochet, head of the military regime in his country. He explained that the PCCh political makeup does not make such a policy unreasonable.

In an interview published today by the leftist publication, EL DIARIO, he added that the PCCh is willing to talk with the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), the Christian Democrats (DC) and other democratic sectors and to sign agreements.

In this regards EL DIARIO publishes a declaration signed by the leaders of the eight Chilean leftist parties who express that their opinions converge regarding the situation in their country and that they agree on the need for organizations of unity, without any exclusions, to be strengthened in exile and to decide to continue their dialogues.

According to Corvalan, the plebiscite on last 11 September, which legalized the present Chilean military government, "precipitated events and opened a new stage." He said: The only road left is that of confrontation all along the line, using every means of combat to overthrow him (General Pinochet).

After saying that he does not propose an unreasonable policy, he stated: We are not in favor of violence for its own sake; we are in favor of putting an end to violence. We are for peace and order, but on the basis of justice.

At the same time as he spoke with approval about Chilean families' longing for tranquillity, he referred to rebellion and said that this is a state of mind which is liable to be created. Corvalan added: The struggle helps to create those conditions; the struggle comes first. The people are right a thousand times; it is necessary to add force--the struggle on all fronts--to reason.

Regarding the MIR, he said that some of its actions are helpful. It is a question of improving the marksmanship. EL DIARIO pointed out that the MIR has claimed responsibility for a number of violent actions in Chile in the last few months.

Regarding the DC, which has been reluctant to participate in an alliance including the PCC , Corvalan stressed the common tasks undertaken during the September plebiscite and recalled that party fought in the guerrilla movement against fascism in Italy together with the communists. He added: Unity is forged in combat; that is how it was in Nicargagua.

When asked whether the Christian Democracy which is now governing in El Salvador expresses the true essence of the party in that country, Corvalan replied by saying: I am not a champion of the DC.

Corvalan then asked the newsman: Which DC are you talking about, the Chilean or the Salvadoran? And to what part of the Salvadoran DC do you refer?

He concluded by confirming his claim of the Chileans' right to rebellion, saying that in this respect there is no change in the political line of his party which, he asserted, maintains the same position of unity among all forces which are for a society in which violence does not reign, since violence is the basis of the system imposed by Pinochet.

LEFTIST GROUPS SIGN DECLARATION OF UNITY

PY150039 Paris AFP in Spanish 1809 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 14 Jan (AFP)--It was learned here today that the leaders of the eight Chilean leftist parties have signed a declaration of unity after analyzing the political situation of the country.

In a communique released to the national and international news media it was reported that the document was signed abroad by Luis Corvalan, secretary general of the Communist Party; Clodomiro Almeyda and Adonis Sepulveda for the two main socialist trends; Anselmo Sule for the Radical Party; Nelson Gutierrez for the Movement of the Revolutionary Left; Luis Maira for the Christian Left; Oscar Garreton for the Single Popular Action Movement; and Enrique Correa for the Single Popular Labor Action Movement.

The document says: We the leaders of the eight Chilean leftist parties who have signed this declaration have gathered to exchange opinions on the situation reigning in our fatherland.

It was pointed out here that most of the parties that have signed the agreement were members of the outlawed Popular Unity which supported the late Socialist President Salvador Allende (1970-1973).

The politicians stated: At this meeting we have found that there is a great convergence of opinions. We have agreed on the need to promote the strengthening of organizations of unity among Chileans in exile and to create such organizations, without any exclusions, in countries where they do not exist.

The leftists then stressed: We consider that the struggle and the unity of our people in Chile are the main points. We highly appreciate the progress made in that direction.

The political leaders also say that they encourage their countrymen to coordinate their actions and strengthen organizations of unity.

They conclude by saying: We have also decided to continue our dialogue and hold a meeting soon with the purpose of expressing our common intention in concrete terms.

It was said in political circles that this is the first open expression of unity among the Chilean leftist parties and movements since the military uprising which overthrew the Popular Unity regime in 1973. Formerly, during Allende's government and the last 7 years of military government headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet, the Chilean Communist Party (PCCh) appeared to be against violence as a method of struggle in Chile, it was said.

In this regard the government newspaper LA NACION wrote today that the communist change from peaceful to violent tactics has not surprised those who know its doctrine and its followers. Only those who always believed in an eangelical communism are surprised. The daily then emphasized that Luis Corvalan, who is entrusted by Moscow with heading the international campaign against this country, has made things clear.

The paper then recalled Corvalan's recent statements to a Peruvian daily in which he urged the use of all methods against General Pinochet's government. LA NACION said: In communist jargon this has a single meaning: terrorism.

The daily concluded by proposing that some people who have stated on some occasion in the past their opposition to the measures taken against the Communist Party members should revise their opinions and position in view of Luis Corvalan's declarations.

COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS ARRESTED IN CONCEPCION

PY142021 Paris AFP in Spanish 1520 GMT 10 Jan 81

[Text] Concepcion, Chile, 10 Jan (AFP)--It was learned here today that five members of the proscribed Chilean Communist Party (PCCh) have been arrested by the military government's security services on charges of distributing bonds to finance their organization. According to police sources, the arrested communists had organized a finance commission and had distributed bonds which were offered to workers of the National Electrical Company of this city, located 500 kilometers from Santiago. The arrested persons--Carlos Castro, Rodolfo Riveros, Jose Paredes, Miguel Solo and Anibal Gonzalez--will be put at the disposal of the courts on charges of violating the political recess. The activities of Chilean political parties were prohibited by the military government headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet after the military coup overthrew the late Socialist President Salvador Allende in 1973.

'COMMITTEE OF HOMELESS' OCCUPIES SWEDISH EMBASSY

PY141738 Paris AFP in Spanish 1559 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 14 Jan [AFP)--It was reported here today that approximately 50 persons occupied the Swedish Embassy in Santiago, Chile this morning.

The group is made up of members of the so-called Committee of the Homeless, according to the report disseminated by the semiofficial news agency ORBE. This news agency indicated that the building, in eastern Santiago, was occupied quietly and without incidents at 1400 GMT (1100 local time), while hundreds of persons who belong to similar committees took over state-owned land in another Santiago neighborhood.

BRIEFS

NEW ANTARCTIC DETACHMENT--The 1981 air force relief detachment has left for President Frei Meteorological Base in the Antarctic. The group is made up of 25 members of the Chilean Air force, a physician, 23 scientists of the Chilean Antarctic Institute and 3 british engineers, who will give a maintenance course on communications equipment which the Lieutenant (March) Base operates in the Antarctic. The group will stay 1 year under the command of Capt (Sergio Tejo Echeverria). [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jan 81 PY]

NAVY CHIEF OF STAFF--At a ceremony held at the Defense Ministry, Vice Adm (Maurice Boisson Eastman) took the oath of office as namy chief of staff. He replaces Vice Adm Luis de Los Rios, who will be the new squadron commander. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Jan 81 PY]

BUSES ON 24-HOUR STRIKE; GENERAL STRIKE LOOMS

PY131504 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0935 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Lima, 13 Jan (TELAM)--The Union of Small Busowners, which covers 80 percent of passenger transport in Lima, decided last night to hold a 24-hour strike today in the Peruvian capital of approximately 6 million people.

A spokesman of the union confirmed that the union does not accept the subsidies promised by the government, but wants a bus fare increase in accordance with the recent fuel price increase.

It is believed that the strike is a preview of the 1-day general strike in the country called by the central unions for 15 January in protest of the recent increase in fuel and basic food prices.

The national strike was called by the General Confederation of Workers of Peru (CGPT), the most powerful Peruvian union, which is run by the small influential Communist Party.

REPORTS OF SUCCESSFUL ANTIGUERRILLA ACTIONS

Commandos Capture Terrorists

PY140135 Paris AFP in Spanish 1811 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Lima, 13 Jan (AFP)--It was learned in this capital today that antiguerrilla commandos spectacularly went into action in Ayacucho Department in the central-southern Andean region of the country, capturing 13 terrorists in their first operation.

Meanwhile, the Peruvian Investigations Police (PIP) announced that so far 96 terrorists have been detained, but it has not been possible to discover the connections among the saboteurs, many of whom belong to the Maoist Shining Path group.

The Shining Path, which has influence in some university circles and believes that the time has come for popular struggle, has been held responsible for most of the 200 attacks against banks and high-voltage towers.

The Shining Path's operations center is in Ayacucho Department, both in its capital and in some towns of its mountainous region, where the Sinchis commandos are advancing, divided into four groups.

According to reports from the capital of Ayacucho Department, one of those commandos took by surprise 13 guerrillas, who defended themselves with dynamite charges and small arms in the town of Vischongo. They were all captured, apparently without causing casualties among the Sinchis.

The commandos have received orders to go to the towns of Alto Acuchimay, Carmen Alto, Vista Alegre, Antarpi, Cangallo, Vischongo, Parcco, Vilcashuaman and others.

The commandos, made up of 150 men, intend to surround the main subversive centers, while the Republican Guard has been strengthened to watch over communications centers and high-voltage lines.

This is the first operation of this nature carried out by the Sinchis, while the government is making efforts to modify the penal law to punish more harshly the terrorists, whom the government considers traitors to the fatherland.

Gen Eduardo Ipinze, superior chief of the PIP, has announced that the number of subversives detained totals 96.

For their trial by the courts, the executive branch has requested that judges be more careful in their resolutions and not release alleged terrorists without having painstakingly used all means of investigation.

General Ipinze said that the subversion seems to follow a coordinated plan, but unfortunately it has not yet been possible to discover the clue which may lead to its dismantling.

Minister Confirms Actions

PY141455 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Interior Minister Jose Maria de la Jara y Ureta has said that the government is dismantling the terrorist bases and is making progress toward giving the country back its peace and tranquillity.

He also said that in order to reach this objective, clear and strong actions are being taken in accordance with the law, the constitution and respect for human rights. These remarks were made by the minister to reporters at the end of a ceremony commemorating the 100th anniversary of San Juan Battle yesterday.

With regard to the bus strike, he said that it is well under control in Lima and the rest of the country.

He said that actions against terrorism in Ayacucho continue in accordance with the prepared plan. He said that many people have been arrested and that subversive bases have been dismantled.

INDIANS DEMAND GOVERNMENT HELP TO OUST INVADERS

PY142006 Paris AFP in Spanish 0204 GMT 10 Jan 81

[Text] Lima, 9 Jan (AFP)--The LIMA TIMES magazine, of this capital, today disclosed that the Campas Indians of the central Peruvian jungle have given the government an ultimatum to dislodge the invaders of their land by 15 January at the latest. The warning states that if the Peruvian regime ignores the requests, the Campas, mostly armed with bows and arrows, will take action in the Ene River area situated between the departments of Junin and Cusco.

A Campas Indian organization stated: We have informed the authorities time and again of the invasions, attacks and thefts carried out by the colonists, but they have done nothing about it, so we will have to defend ourselves.

The magazine adds that the Campas, which form a civilized community, have very few firearms and do not wish a violent solution to their problem but that this situation, which has been going on for over a year, is driving them to despair. The LIMA TIMES states that the tribe is also claiming the title to the land where they fish and hunt and points out that the invaders are members of cooperatives and semi-impoverished peasants of the Andean region.

EGYPTIAN STATE MINISTER ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT

PA142353 Paris AFP in Spanish 0130 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jan (AFP)--Butrus Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affiars, arrived here today on an official visit to meet with his counterpart, Jorge Castaneda, and with President Jose Lopez Portillo.

The Mexican foreign secretary, who welcomed the Egyptian minister at the airport, will host a dinner in his home for Ghali tonight.

The guest will have various social engagements Wednesday and on Thursday he will hold formal talks with Castaneda, Tourism Secretary Rosa Luz Alegria and the mayor of Mexico City, Carlos Hank Gonzalez.

On Thursday too, the Egyptian foreign minister will be guest of honor at a dinner hosted by his counterpart in the Foreign Secretariat. He will then give a lecture at the University of Mexico, one of the main academic institutions in the country.

On Friday, the two foreign ministers will hold another final round of talks and meet with the president of the republic.

Ghali's visit will end with a reception in honor of Castaneda at the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The Egyptian minister will spend the (?weekend) at the Caribbean resort of Cancun, and on Monday he will fly to Paris.

PEMEX REPORTS RECORD CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION

PA150326 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0033 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jan (EFE)--The state-owned Pemex announced here today that it has achieved a rocord production of crude by extracting 2,292,000 barrels of oil daily.

This record production was achieved by extracting an additional 22,000 barrels daily. Ninety-two percent of this amount comes from the oil deposits in southeastern Mexico, the Pemex report explained.

The report says that a total of 35 wells are being exploited, and that some of them have a worldwide production record because they yield up to 50,000 or 60,000 barrels daily.

Mexico's production goal for 1982 is to reach a daily production of 2.7 million barrels.

PAPER CITES U.S. PLANS FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

PA141844 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 13 Jan 81 pp 4-a, 12-a

[Column by Luis Restrepo Rosas: "Preparing the Assault"]

[Text] Preparations for the invasion of El Salvador are advancing at full speed. According to the latest reports, the Pentagon has mobilized the assault forces in what is known as "the first step in the war against Central America."

A document entitled "Dissent Paper on El Salvador and Central America" [title given in English] lists the steps to be taken as part of the plans prepared many months ago by U.S. agencies specialized in espionage. Among these plans is a preliminary operation to provide logistic support and guidance through the American embassies and missions. These American embassies or missions are actively working in Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Santo Domingo, in Jamaica now, in Venezuela with the full collaboration of President Herrera Campins' Government, and in other countries, including Panama.

A significant report from Honduras was published in Sunday's edition of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA. We must point out that LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA is mentioned in the U.S. agencies' secret reports as a newspaper "favorable" to the above-mentioned plans. The report refers to a "dialectical squabble" between the American ambassador to Honduras, Mr Jack Binns, and the secretary general of the Communist Party of Honduras, Rigoberto Padilla Rush. Ambassador Binns keeps up a flow of distortion concerning the situation in Central America, accusing the sectors led by Padilla Rush of "plotting and favoring Caribbean intervention in the area." Binns has gone further and has been one of the most outstanding individuals to achieve what is described in that document as "the establishment and/or an increase of cooperation and communication among the armed forces and paramilitary organizations in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras." Only a few days ago it was officially announced that the armed forces and paramilitary groups of El Salvador and Honduras were going to launch a joint mili ary action along the border to put an end to the Salvadoran guerrilla groups operating in the area. The extermination plan has already been tested before, with the murder of the 800 peasants who were fleeing from the violence and "were surrounded" when they tried to cross the Honduran border in an action which involved the participation of the armed forces from those two countries.

It has been learned that Ambassador Binns has persuaded the United States to increase the training of lower-ranking officers of the Honduran Army. According to the reports, this training is being given in the "schools" on the military bases of the U.S. Army in Panama. The goal of the training program is "to reinforce the military structures in order to achieve a better and more effective system of communications in the urban and rural battles and to achieve a more rapid deployment of troops."

Other goals are: "to establish an adequate supply line, the storage of materiel, in cooperation with the allies within and outside the hemisphere"... "to promote tactical and strategic assistance to the commands"... "to increase the coordination and unity among the various structures of the commands (Guatemala and Honduras) and the Salvadoran Armed Forces" and "to try to unite all the paramilitary groups in the area under a single command." The following is established for the preparatory stage for the assault on Central America:

A. To create the favorable conditions so that other countries will support the initiatives concerning Central America presented by the United States in the United Nations and the OAS.
B. To closely watch and encourage favorable coverage of the Salvadoran issue through the communications media that the United States supports and trusts throughout the world and the United States.
C. To supply the Salvadoran Armed Forces with the information the United States has on the development of military events in the area.

As one can observe, all the initial measures have been taken in order to carry out the assault on Central America rapidly and effectively as far as it is known, and the only think pending is to issue the order to put into motion the assault units from Florida, the military bases in the Panama Canal area and Puerto Rico....

BELIZE

OFFICIAL LEAVES FOR CARICOM MEETING IN JAMAICA

FL150150 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Text] The ambassador to the Caribbean Community, attorney general and minister of education and sports, Said Musu, today left Belize for Kingston, Jamaica, to attend the 18th conference of the Council of Ministers of CARICOM. This will be followed by a meeting between representatives of Canada and members of CARICOM at ministerial level to discuss joint trade and economic matters.

COSTA RICA

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS DEPORTATIONS TO EL SALVADOR

PA141614 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Rodolfo Quiroz Cedeno, director of immigration officers of the Public Security Ministry, has announced that the deportation of Salvadorans to El Salvador has been temporarily suspended in view of the critical political situation in their country. However, if they do not respect the law or legalize their status they will be deported to another country such as Nicaragua or Panama.

Quiroz added that strict vigilance has been established over the Salvadorans in Costa Rica. As a result of the conflict in El Salvador, a large number of Salvadorans have entered Costa Rica, so measures are being taken to duly register them.

COSTA RICA TO ATTEND NONALIGNED MEETING IN INDIA

PA141951 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus has announced that Costa Rica will be represented at the nonaligned meeting that will be held in India next month. President Rodrigo Carazo feels that Costa Rica should attend the nonaligned countries' meetings even if just as an observer. Last year Costa Rica attended the nonaligned meeting in Havana, provoking various reactions in Costa Rica.

Costa Rica will attend the meeting to learn of the measures that will be adopted in defense of the Third World. The nonaligned countries will decide what actions need to be taken to counteract the industrialized countries' policies which harm the Third World economies.

Costa Rica will attend the nonaligned conference as an observer.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE REPORTS LANDING OF 100 'FOREIGN GUERRILLAS'

PA141920 Paris AFP in Spanish 1905 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jan (AFP)--Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the Salvadoran Government junta said here this afternoon that "at least 100 foreign guerrillas landed during the last 24 hours on the Cuco beaches" in San Miguel Department, about 150 km southeast of San Salvador.

According to statements by Duarte and other members of the Salvadoran Government, "the invaders landed from 5 barges having a capacity of 20 to 30 men each." He added that the army has surrounded the guerrillas.

Duarte said, "This action is further proof of foreign intervention in Salvadoran affairs." He mentioned the possibility that the guerrillas might be Nicaraguan, although he did not confirm it.

FDR DENIES 'NICARAGUAN GUERRILLAS' LANDING

PA142157 Paris AFP in Spanish 1844 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] San Jose, 14 Jan (AFP)--Leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) described reports here today of a "landing of Nicaraguan guerrillas" on the Salvadoran coasts as "a gross maneuver by the U.S. Government to justify its intervention in the Salvadoran conflict."

FDR representatives in San Jose maintained that statements by Robert White, U.S. ambassador to El Salvador, regarding "an imminent Nicaraguan landing" are "lies" which he is spreading to try to "excuse the fact of a Honduran and Guatemalan intervention and U.S. military and economic aid to the Salvadoran Government."

Jose Hasfura, Salvadoran ambassador in Caracas, who made statements corroborating White's, went even further by saying that "100 Nicaraguan guerrillas landed in two launches, but the army located them and has surrounded them."

Ricardo Sol, Mario Flores and Gabriel Gallegos, former labor minister in the cabinet of the Salvadoran junta, all of whom represent the opposition FDR in San Jose, met today with the Mexican ambassador to Costa Rica to in their words, "express appreciation for the support given by the Mexican Government and people to the FDR's cause and the Salvadoran people's struggle.

DUARTE ON INVASION POSSIBILITIES, OTHER ISSUES

PA142232 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2133 GMT 14 Jan 81

[By German Acero Espinoza]

[Text] Bogota, 14 Jan (EFE)--Napoleon Duarte, president of the Salvadoran Government junta, warned today that the armed forces and the people, primarily, will repel any invasion of their country "that is attempted from Nicaragua."

Duarte said during an interview with Radio Caracol of Bogota that he has been informed that leftist guerrillas are preparing an armed invasion of El Salvador from Nicaragua in the coming hours.

The chief of state accused the USSR, Cuba and Nicaragua of supplying armed assistance to Salvadoran leftist guerrillas in their efforts to wrest power from the government and the armed forces. "The weapons confiscated from the guerrillas come from China, Russia, Cuba and of course, from the other socialist countries such as Nicaragua," Duarte said over the Radio Caracol network of Colombia.

Duarte denied that the Salvadoran Government junta is receiving aid from abroad. He said, "The army is struggling alone against the guerrillas who are supported, of course, by Cuba, Nicaragua and the USSR, as well as the other socialist countries."

"Both the extreme right and the extreme left have been preparing to overthrow the government before the Reagan government takes office in the United States, but we have thwarted their attempts," he said.

Duarte said the Salvadoran people reject outright the establishment of a Marxist-Leninist government and that is why the guerrillas are failing in their attempt to take power in his country.

Duarte hinted at the possibility that the new U.S. Government will understand the efforts that the government junta is making to defend democracy in El Salvador, and will therefore, once and for all, decide to help it in the future.

"Reagan's government is going to understand the effort we are making and, naturally, will not halt the aid that the U.S. Government usually gives Latin American governments and, in this specific case, El Salvador," Duarte said.

He likewise disclosed that violence has dropped a great deal in El Salvador after the armed forces squashed the guerrillas' final offensive to take over power

Duarte said that no newsman is missing in El Salvador, and regarding a Venezuelan citizen, he said that this man was arrested because he was collaborating with the guerrillas as their "contact" with Cayetano Carpio.

Regarding the officers who joined the rebel forces he said that Col Bruno Navarrete apparently is in Nicaragua and from there is sending messages to the guerrillas and the people via Radio Sandino. Duarte said that Colonel Cruz and Mena Sanoval, who rebelled in Santa Ana, are presently fleeing the country with 500 guerrillas, headed toward Guatemala.

He said that the situation in Santa Ana has been overcome and that the situation in San Esteban and Zacatecoluca is returning to normal. These are the main cities in El Salvador. In the interview with Radio Caracol Duarte said: "We've already evicted the guerrillas from these towns."

The Salvadoran president also dismissed reports that Salvadoran cities, such as Zacatecoluca, where several war planes were sighted, had been bombed. "The planes are merely guarding the towns on the northern coast because we have been informed that an armed invasion from Nicaragua is being prepared. We are afraid that the guerrillas will invade us from Nicaragua," he warned.

Duarte said: "I do not believe in the guerrillas' threats because the only final offensive that could take place in my country would be an invasion from abroad."

He added: "They do not have that capability internally, unless they regroup and attack, but they will be rejected and defeated once again."

Duarte concluded: "If the invasion is launched from Nicaragua, they are going to meet up with the entire Salvadoran people, with their weapons in their hands to defend themselves."

Foreign Military Assistance

PA142357 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2314 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte, a Christian Democrat, said today that it is "totally false that the Honduran and Guatemalan Armies are helping his government in the struggle against the leftist guerrillas."

Duarte said at a press conference that in El Salvador there is no civil war; instead, he said, there is "a geopolitical invasion by Marxist-Leninist imperialism in the Caribbean area."

He continued saying: "The representatives of the Salvadoran guerrillas have visited several countries and received foreign support. Proof of this are the weapons they use, which are of Soviet, Chinese and Cuban manufacture. If further proof is needed, we have the landing of 100 foreign guerrillas on the beaches of El Cuco."

Duarte also commented on the reports about the resumption of U.S. military aid to his government.

He said: "Although late, the United States has finally made up its mind." He immediately clarified that the U.S. aid is nothing more than the approval of a November 1979 loan that had been frozen.

Also present at the press conference, Army Commander Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez then clarified: "We have not received one single cartridge from the United States."

Gutierrez continued: "The (U.S.) aid, totaling $5.7 million, is not for arms or ammunition. The aid is for transportation and communications equipment. It does include two helicopters, but these are not armed."

According to Gutierrez, this materiel is already on the U.S. docks ready to be sent to El Salvador. He said that a U.S. helicopter maintenance expert will probably also be sent to train the Salvadoran mechanics.

Regarding the landing of foreign guerrillas--bearing automatic weapons, according to the official report--Gutierrez said:

"Our armed forces are intact, and we feel that we are capable of evicting from our territory the 100 guerrillas who have landed, as well as anyone else."

President Duarte then added: "We will not allow international military interference, be it from the right or the left."

Duarte said that the curfew, in effect from 1900 to 0500 hours, will be maintained.

Regarding the general strike begun yesterday by the left, Duarte said: "You yourselves, the newsmen, are witnesses to the failure of the strike. Everyone is working. Those who called the strike have been totally rejected by the Salvadoran people. This shows that this people are fighting against Marxist totalitarianism."

He added: "We have controlled the situation. They (the guerrillas) tried and failed. They are going to make another attempt, however, and that is why we are alert."

"We are going to show the guerrillas that there is no military solution. The only solution is a political one: the elections that the government junta is going to hold in March of 1982," Duarte stressed.

Asked by a newsman if he would accept opposition leader Guillermo Ungo if the people were to elect him president, Duarte said yes, "of course."

The Salvadoran president would not affirm that Nicaragua is promoting the conflict in his country, but he did say that the socialist bloc is using that neighboring country "as a springboard."

Journalists, Reporting

PA150148 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 14 Jan 81

[News conference held by junta President Jose Napoleon Duarte at the presidential palace on 13 January 1981; time not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] [Words indistinct] died as a result of injuries sustained in the explosion of either a bomb or a mine, bringing to two the number of foreign newsmen killed in El Salvador. Two colleagues who were with him. . . [does not complete sentence] John Hoagland, who was with him in Mejicanos was wounded as was Susan Meiselas, another colleague.

Mr President, the media have indicated that Venezuelan newsman Nelson Arrieta was taken from his room at the Alameda Hotel by a group of unidentified persons. Among those of us who have been here for some months and [words indistinct] there is great consternation over this situation, and over the kidnapping of newsman John Sullivan, who was taken from his hotel by unidentified persons and whose whereabouts are unknown. I would like to hear your opinion or your viewpoints regarding this situation. We will remain in El Salvador for some time, until our home offices transfer us elsewhere. Could you please give us your opinion of this situation and send a message to the international correspondents on this situation?

[Answer] I would like to correct your statement somewhat, especially some of the things which are not true. First of all, I believe that no one can say that the man who was in the Sheraton Hotel and who has since disappeared, was taken away by someone. There is no proof of this. He was not even registered as a newsman. He went to the hotel, registered as a guest, left his room and was not seen again. Therefore, we know absolutely nothing. No one knows anything, and that includes you. Therefore, we cannot say that unidentified persons captured him and made him disappear or kidnapped him. This cannot be said, because we would then investigate.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] Regarding Nelson Arrieta, it is also untrue that he was kidnapped from his hotel. He is under arrest and he is being held by the national police, because he was the liaison in the meeting with Cayetano Carpio, and 2 days ago, he met with one of the guerrillas of the Unified Revolutionary Directorate. There are witnesses to the fact that he gave $150,000 to one of those people. Moreover, this gentleman travelled to Nicaragua and Mexico on liaison operations.

Along with him were arrested others [words indistinct] with whom they were planning their actions as guerrilla contacts. That is the situation. I reported on this yesterday and that gentleman will be turned over to the Venezuelan Government, as is proper, because he is a Venezuelan.

I believe that it is important to make a distinction between what a newsman does in the fulfillment of his duty, when he deserves full respect, and the use of his position as a cover for engaging in guerrilla activities.

You have asked me for a letter. [Words indistinct] preparing for a meeting with all newsmen in order to give this letter, for us to establish the rules of the game, so that we may know how you are going to operate, so that there will be no problems. The government is prepared to help you do your job. It cannot be denied that the government is making every effort to give all kinds of information. You have seen for yourselves that we are not hiding anything from you. We are telling you the whole truth.

[Question] EL DIARIO DE HOY has said that the opposition has won the war abroad in the press. What is the Salvadoran Government doing to really correct this situation with regard to the information that goes abroad? For example, the Salvadoran Government does not have a central agency for the distribution of information. [words indistinct]

[Answer] Some of the statements which I made to Salvadoran newsmen were distorted. [Words indistinct] a communist machine has been set up in the world and that machinery has already been tried out and it is functioning like clockwork throughout the world. Communists use all the instruments of information of the world to achieve their objectives. And all the news that you send out--good, bad and indifferent--since the machinery is so powerful, is gathered, distorted and translated into any language they wish to achieve their desired objectives.

In any case, it is impossible for a little country like El Salvador to fight against that machinery. The world campaign is tremendous. At this moment, we are all here and all know what is happening in the country.

Nevertheless, I invite you to go anywhere in the world to read or to listen to the news and you will hear what is said in other countries. The information says that at least 40 towns have been taken by the leftists, and that they have complete control [words indistinct], that they have units in San Salvador, that they destroyed the airport. These are all lies.

Of course, what they want is to establish the conditions for some country to recognize them and to declare a state of belligerency so that Cuban planes can come in. [words indistinct]

We do not have the capacity to face up to this geopolitical condition in the world. It is too much for a country as small as ours.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] That the guerrillas put down their weapons and that together we week a solution within the democratic system of participation and that the people choose their own destiny.

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] The amnesty law has already been approved and any guerrilla who wants to surrender will have his life respected and will be incorporated into normal life. We have already done this. Hundreds of guerrillas have turned themselves in and are back in their towns in peace.

MORALES EHRLICH REPORTS ON COSTA RICA VISIT

PA150247 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0235 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Message to the Salvadoran people by Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, member of the revolutionary government junta--live]

[Excerpt] Good evening, dear friends. I am making this television appearance after returning from Costa Rica to talk to you a while and perhaps dispel your doubts or anything else conveyed to the Salvadoran people by the media. I left for Costa Rica on Saturday morning because I was going on private business and on some matters related to my duties in the government. While I was there, I found out, because everything was orchestrated, that the front had attacked various garrisons. Everything was already printed. It was said that they had attacked and taken over cities and garrisons; in sum, it gave a completely different impression from what was going on.

This should make us think because it is obvious this is a complete misinformation campaign directed at overthrowing our government so that a Marxist government can be established. This is the line of the front. It is the supreme line. Those who claim to be independent don't have a say in the matter. They don't matter, as the saying goes, and that is the true situation.

That misinformation was so bad that a radio station, I think it was Radio Sandino, said I had fled with 12 suitcases. Then Radio Havana mentioned 13 suitcases and Radio Moscow later reported that I had taken more than 15 suitcases. Gentlemen, those are sheer lies. It is an effort to make the world believe that we are disunited and on the brink of chaos; in sum, to confuse the public in other countries concerning what is really happening in our country.

I also learned there that the front held news conference with maps of the country explaining how they were in control of several cities and all the places that had fallen. They gave the names of dozens of factories and businesses which were on strike. They said that not a single farm or cooperative was working here because everybody was on strike. The place was in flames and at a standstill.

I want to tell you that after I got a briefing from President Duarte on the situation, I also held news conferences. Just this morning, I was on two television programs which are very popular there explaining the entire Salvadoran process, major reforms, the reasons for the changes and the objective of the democratic process and the incorporation of the people into the process we are undertaking. I want to tell you that in general the opinions and information aired following the left's announcements have balanced things out. The people now have a clearer idea of what happened and later they have obtained a clearer view of the resounding failure that the front has experienced in this adventure in which it did not care about the pain and bloodshed that the attacks cause, especially to their own forces.

NATIONAL GUARD DIRECTOR REPORTS ON SITUATION

PA142136 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Jan 81 pp 3, 33

[Excerpts] Col Carlos Eugenio Vives Casanova, director general of the National Guard, said yesterday in reference to the confusion existing in American countries because some news agencies have circulated only the bulletins issued by the Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] that: "In foreign countries, the leftists have already won the war." Colonel Vives Casanova said these agencies have not bothered to find out the truth.

The colonel referred to the FDR "communiques" in which it claimed to have control over 12 towns around San Salvador "where the leftist forces are entrenched and are not allowing the army to enter."

The National Guard director said that the leftists' strategy had failed. They had sought, by means of a synchronized attack, "to exterminate the army," but this did not happen as planned and they limited themselves to harassment attacks which only caused them to lose ammunition and people. It is supposed, the officer said, that they knew what they were doing.

In the specific case of the National Guard, he said, it was to have been attacked with 100 grenades which, had they all exploded, would have caused at least 10 deaths each. Only two of them exploded in a nearby ditch and the others were confiscated by the patrols which repelled the attack. They were shown to newsmen. They are Russian and Chinese-made weapons.

As regards attacks on guard posts in the interior of the country, the officer said that these attacks were concentrated in areas in which garrison headquarters are located, but casualties were minimal when compared with the scope of the action. The National Guard suffered only six casualties.

As regards the concept of occupation, it was explained that the leftist groups go to a town, block the steets and say that they have occupied it. When the army arrives, they flee from the town. However, the idea of an occupation is maintained abroad, because in their bulletins, they state that the occupation is permanent. This is not so, as can easily be confirmed.

Colonel Vives Casanova said that the leftists have some media support abroad. These media give credit to what the leftists say, but ignore the official versions that are circulated. This is how they confuse the public and conceal the truth.

FIELD COMMANDERS IN CHARGE OF CITIES' DEFENSE

PA142334 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 0432 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] The Defense Ministry has reported that Col Carlos Eugenio Vives Casanova, National Guard general director, is the field commander in San Salvador. The field commanders in the country's other main cities are garrison chiefs and brigade commanders. The Defense Ministry also has announced that the armed forces is in control of the situation throughout the country.

The field commanders are in charge of their respective zones in case of national emergencies, such as the current one we are having as result of the insurrectional activities unleashed last Saturday by a group of extremists.

The field commanders have the responsibility of implementing the necessary measures to counteract any attempt on the state's security and to protect the citizens' life and property.

The field commanders are in charge of issuing safeconducts requested by the citizens interested in holding social gatherings and meetings.

These measures are being coordinated with the governors of the departments and are necessary for defense purposes and to protect the citizens and zones against destruction and violence.

The army's 2d and 3d brigades are in charge of these duties in Santa Ana and San Miguel.

FDR SAYS GUATEMALAN PLANES OVERFLYING NORTH

PA142333 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2027 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Managua, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--A Guatemalan military aircraft has made reconnaissance flights over Salvadoran territory, the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR) reported today in this capital.

The FDR spokesman told ACAN-EFE that the Guatemalan Air Force aircraft overflew the northern part of El Salvador "compiling information for the Salvadoran Army."

The same source added that inhabitants of Chalatenango "confirmed that a Guatemalan military aircraft was involved." It did not attack but made reconnaissance flights.

The FDR affirmed that "it is quite possible that the Guatemalan Air Force is lending support to the Christian Democratic junta of El Salvador because the latter "is not in any position to conduct reconnaissance flights in the northern part of the country."

The FDR spokesman noted that during the attack on the Salvadoran Air Force garrison in the capital last Saturday the airstrips were damaged as well as the military aircraft.

The same source said that the decision of the government of Jimmy Carter to resume military aid to the Salvadoran junta may be connected "with the weakness" of the Salvadoran Air Force.

Another report supplied by the FDR here indicates that Guatemalan Army troops were detected by the Salvadoran inhabitants in the city of "San Miguel."

The spokesman added that Honduran Army forces have still not entered Salvadoran territory, but that they are carrying out a "combing operation" on the border between the two countries.

These Honduran Army operations were described by the source as "normal."

AFP: FMLN GUERRILLAS OPERATING ON FOUR FRONTS

PA142346 Paris AFP in Spanish 2235 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jan (AFP)--The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas have opened four battlefronts in El Salvador following the general offensive launched on 10 January against the government junta of President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

The revolutionary forces, which have formed columns, reported that they had launched attacks on four fronts.

The first front, apparently the most important, according to reports obtained in San Salvador, is clashing with the army west of San Salvador, in the departments of Santa Ana and Ahuachapan, along the border with Guatemala. Violent battles took place in this zone during the first 3 days of the offensive.

The FMLN today reported that it was still occupying Santa Ana, the second largest city in the country, while the army reported that it had ousted the rebels and resumed control of the city.

The second front, operating in the central zone of the country, represents the revolutionary forces in charge of occupying sectors and suburbs of San Salvador, El Salvador's vital zone where most of the factories are located. Apparently, the mission of the guerrillas of the second front is to harrass the army near San Salvador. The third front, called the paracentral, is operating south of San Salvador and its mission is to seize highways and roads between San Salvador and Chalatenango, capital of Chalatenango Department, along the border with Honduras.

The fourth front is operating in the east, where violent attacks against the army have been launched.

The armed forces last Tuesday admitted that these attacks had taken place, mainly in San Francisco Gotera, capital of Morazan Department, 17 km east of San Salvador. According to reports, some 2,000 guerrillas have been participating in these operations since the beginning of the general offensive.

The FMLN said that its forces had recently been reinforced with the soldiers who have deserted from the army and civilians who have join the guerrillas.

DEFENSE MINISTER DENIES GUERRILLAS' VICTORY CLAIMS

PA150432 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Interview with Salvadoran Defense Minister Col Jose Guillermo Garcia, no place or date given--recorded]

[Text] [Garcia] I imagine that Costa Ricans believe that the individuals who have plotted against freedom and democracy have virtually taken over the country because of their claims that they have control of the cities of Santa Ana, La Union, San Miguel, Zacatecoluca, San Vicente, Sonsonate and Ahuachapan. I can assure you that they have not had the power to seize not even the smallest village in our country. This has been possible because the people and the armed forces have stood in their way.

[Question] Here in Costa Rica the Revolutionary Democratic Front denounced violations by the Salvadoran authorities of some refugees' sanctuary. What do you have to say about this?

[Garcia] That is what they say. However, I can assure you that we have disinterestedly tried to help the people who are trying to escape from subversion. These sanctuaries are occupied by the peasants who have fled from these hordes which are destroying everything that stands in their way and are not permitting the peasants to work because of the state of uncertainty. We have been to some of the refugees' sanctuaries with the church officials' approval and at all times our personnel has treated the refugees with respect and courtesy.

Casualties Reported

PA150059 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2321 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--According to Salvadoran authorities clashes between the army and guerrillas in Gotera, Suchitoto and El Coco Beach continued today.

Defense Minister Col Guillermo Garcia affirmed that the fighting was "fierce" in Gotera and that the town is without communications, noting that some 800 guerrillas are carrying out military operations there.

In Suchitoto, according to the ranking military spokesman, the fighting has intensified and access routes have been cut off. Suchitoto was taken the day before yesterday by the revolutionaries.

In Zacatecoluca, where the fiercest fighting has occurred, the situation today was normal, according to Garcia.

The colonel said that since the general guerrilla offensive was unleashed last Saturday, the army has sustained 42 casualties, including 4 officers.

Regarding the military desertions, he announced that 5 officers, including 2 colonels and 1 commander, joined the guerrillas, as did 53 soldiers of the 2d infantry brigade in Santa Ana.

Regarding Col Bruno Navarrete of the eastern front, he indicated that he had been dismissed 3 months ago "for his recurrent irregular conduct." At the beginning of the left-wing general offensive, Navarrete, signed a proclamation in which he invited the army to join the guerrilla struggle.

ARMY MAY SUMMARILY TRY MILITARY DESERTERS

PA140053 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 14 Jan 81 p 3

[Excerpts] The army may summarily try the military deserters who went over to the insurgents, military sources said yesterday.

A Defense Ministry source told newsmen yesterday that various military commands have been asking the high command to open a case against the militarymen (Col Adino Vladimir Cruz, Capt Francisco Emilio Mena Sandoval and Col Bruno Navarrete) arguing the case is the most serious in El Salvador's military history because an officer had never been killed by a subordinate.

As a step preceding the court-martial, it was indicated that because of the seriousness of the case both Colonel Cruz and Captain Mena may be demoted in a public ceremeny to apologize to the armed forces as they broke a soldier's vow they had made before the national flag. If they were demoted, this would also be one of the few cases of such an occurrence in the history of El Salvador.

STRIKE FAILURE; CLASHES, COMMUNICATIONS OUTRAGES

PA150423 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0120 GMT 15 Jan 81

[By Ricardo Medina Fermin]

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Normal urban transportation, the opening of all businesses and mass attendance to worksites indicate the failure of the second day of the "general strike" called by the Salvadoran opposition.

While 50 percent of the Salvadoran work force supported the strike yesterday, today a larger turnout of people was observed in the principal routes of access to the capital.

The employees of the Education Ministry, who did not work yesterday, went to work normally today. It is worthwhile noting that tight vigilance was observed by the army soldiers in the building which houses this government office.

Most towns in the eastern part of the country are without communications with San Salvador, and commercial activities have decreased considerably due to trenches 1 meter deep and 2 meters wide in the access routes, caused by the heavy fighting waged between the guerrilla and army units.

ACAN-EFE learned that there was no interdepartmental transportation today to the following places: Zacatecoluca, Usulutan, San Miguel, Morazan and La Union; all in the eastern part, except for Zacatecoluca, which is located in the southeastern region.

Two trucks were burned at the point of km 51 of the Pan-American Highway by the insurgents, preventing the access of vehicles to the eastern part of the country.

One truck and one interdepartmental bus were burned in the vicinity of San Vicente, blocking access to most persons who were going to that city.

The situation in Santa Ana in western El Salvador is regular, in Sonsonate normal, Ahuachapan regular; while in San Miguel, Gotera and Suchitoto there have been fierce battles between Salvadoran Army troops and leftwing guerrillas.

The president of the Salvadoran Government junta, Christian Democrat Jose Napoleon Duarte said in a press conference that the total failure of the "general strike" called by the leftwing Revolutionary Democratic Front is very clear.

Ministry Spokesmen

PA142257 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1719 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Spokesmen for the Labor and Social Welfare Ministry indicated today that it has been confirmed that 100 percent of the workers reported to their jobs today in commerce, industry, services and the government.

Many inspectors from the ministry have gone to work centers and confirmed that all personnel of factories, businesses, services and offices are on the job and performing their duties normally.

Individuals have used all means of transportation to get to their jobs and have even walked, which shows that the Salvadoran people have disregarded all the calls for a strike made by extremist groups that are seeking to destabilize the country's economy. Therefore, everything is proceeding normally and peacefully.

FDR-FMLN GROUP OUTLINES FUTURE PLANS, GOALS

PA142319 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2054 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Mexico City, 14 Jan (EFE)--The political-diplomatic commission of the Revolutionary Democratic Front--Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FDR-FMLN) of El Salvador announced today that it will not become a government-in-exile and denounced the intervention of the United States, Venezuela, Guatemala and Honduras in El Salvador.

During a news conference, the commission named by the FDR and the FMLN also asserted that the Salvadoran rebel forces are already in control of a substantial part of the country's territory.

They warned that any direct armed intervention is doomed to fail and affirmed the government's forces have lost their offensive and mobilization capacity in face of the rebels' onslaught.

They firmly denied they are receiving direct assistance from abroad and dismissed the thesis that El Salvador is experiencing a struggle between two extremes and a progressive government.

They added that the date of the final offensive will depend on the development of the war, which they described as "a people's war," influenced by the military and the political factors. They added that, judging from the present status of the conflict, the junta can only get reinforcements from abroad.

The members of the commission are Guillermo Ungo, Salvador Samayoa, Fabio Castillo, Jose Rodriguez Ruiz, Ana Guadalupe Martinez Menendez, Mario Aguinada Carranza and Ruben Zamora.

The group said one of its missions is to take political and diplomatic action to avert foreign intervention in El Salvador. It noted that the struggle "is resulting in a decisive moment for our people to overthrow the junta and to install a popular government that will bring peace to our country."

Describing their movement as pluralist, the members of the group said any government emerging from it will not be a presidential regime but a reflection of the alliance of the popular forces comprising it. They added that the day the government is constituted it will be constituted as "a government-in-arms" or "an established government."

The group said that, in any event, their plan will exclude those who have directly fought against "the people's revolutionary movement" and those whose economic interests directly clash with the FDR-FMLN's aims.

The group added that the government will be "nonaligned," will promote small and medium-sized enterprises and will seek profound social reforms, especially in the education and health fields.

The members of the commission said that the present military situation is highly favorable to the rebels, since they control several cities and extensive sectors of several departments. They added that over 250 men, including several officers, have deserted from the army and have joined the opposition fighters. They asserted that divisions within the army, which were formerly guessed at, are now visible. They even said that one thing that some members of the army do to cooperate is to abandon war materiel or to pull back without fighting.

In reference to foreign intervention, the group said that an agreement has been reached for "some batallions" of the Guatemalan and Honduran armies to participate in "joint operations" against the insurgents. In addition, they noted that the United States has resumed its military aid to the government junta after having suspended it temporarily.

With regard to Venezuela, they accused the leaders of that country of cooperating with the present Salvadoran Government "without taking into account" their nation's interests because of their personal relations with Jose Napoleon Duarte, a member of the junta. According to the group, Venezuelan aid has consisted of sending military advisers to the Salvadoran General Staff, training policemen in Venezuelan academies, and giving political support and loans to sustain the national economy.

Regarding the call to strike, they said that it is one of the forms of struggle included in the "peoples war" that they are waging and expressed satisfaction with the suspension of 50 percent of the country's economic activity within a "state of war."

The members of the group, who explained that the commission was established to prepare a draft format for the "revolutionary government," announced that they will travel to several countries in America, Europe, Asia and Africa to publicize the positions of the movement they represent and to seek political support.

They added that the revolutionaries are willing to hold a dialogue and expressed their hope that, despite the political position of the incoming U.S. Government, the pragmatism of U.S. politicians will prevail. The group added that they are prepared for the dialogue, but added, however, that this will come after the defeat of the military junta.

The group later added that the actions of the junta have generated schisms within the international Christian Democratic movement. As an example, they noted that the Christian Democratic parties of Belgium, Honduras and Ireland have called for the withdrawal of support from the present Salvadoran regime.

The members of the commission asked the world's governments to withdraw their support from the junta and to prevent any possible foreign intervention in El Salvador.

In discussing the thesis of polarization mentioned primarily by the United States, the group said that the polarization exists, not between a "progressive" government that is struggling against the extremist groups, but between a "genocidal" junta and the "revolutionary peoples" movement.

Finally, they reiterated that they have the people's support and that a possible foreign intervention would be initially successful, but would come up against serious tactical problems and would also affect the entire area and create "a new Vietnam" in Central America.

OPPOSITION FIGURE PREDICTS 'RELATIVELY SHORT' WAR

LD141205 Paris L'HUMANITE in French 9 Jan 81 p 7

[Jean Ortiz and Regis Huleux dispatch: "The Assault on the Dictatorship Has Begun"]

[Text] Havana, 8 January--The nature of the struggle in El Salvador has changed. It no longer consists of harassment but direct military clashes. The dictatorship's army is still in full flight in the Guapaza Hill sector near San Salvador. It has been forced to return to barracks in the Chalatenango Department, according to an announcement on "Venceremos" radio picked up in Havana on Tuesday evening. The liberation forces are occupying the city of Osicala after fighting which lasted all night from Monday to Tuesday morning. From San Salvador, Mario Aguinada, one of the seven members of the Political and Diplomatic Committee set up by the new Farabundo Marti national liberation front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front, answered the questions which L'HUMANITE sent to him.

[Question] What role does the "Group of Seven" have?

[Answer] The committee's task will be to establish contacts with Latin American, European, Asian and African governments to persuade them to break off relations with the junta and to recognize and support the future democratic government.

[Question] The junta is said to be isolated inside and outside the country and yet it is still in place....

[Answer] It is right to say that it no longer has any basis. It rests only on the bulk of the army. It is only surviving by massacring citizens.

The victims are poor people. To mention just one example, during the October offensive in Morazan, the army used 3,500 soldiers and dropped tons of bombs and napalm on the department. After 3 weeks of fighting the soldiers were forced to withdraw. Since then we have recaptured all the positions we previously held.

[Question] When will the insurrection, which is being discussed so much, begin?

[Answer] The insurgents have been fighting in El Salvador for a long time. The period through which we have just passed was a period of psychological preparation and organization which is now resulting in the assault on the dictatorship. It has begun. The nature of our action has changed.

People's War

[Question] The defense minister, Colonel Garcia, states, however, that you no longer have more than 2,000 armed men....

[Answer] Colonel Garcia is mistaken. This is not a conventional war; it is a people's war. The balance of forces is the reverse of what Garcia claims. It cannot be measured by conventional parameters.

The colonel is viewing things like a bourgeois soldier: I have so much. The enemy has so much. Not only do we have a revolutionary army, militia and guerrillas, we have organizations. We do not simply have military weapons but political weapons and those are damned good fighting weapons. An example of such a weapon is the general strike. It will paralyze the economy and contribute to the insurrection at military level. This is action by the majority of the people, the workers and the small employers.

[Question] What role is being played by Colonel Majano who resigned from the junta 3 weeks ago?

[Answer] We see him as a patriot in uniform, a soldier produced by a bourgeois institution. However, he takes progressive stances and they bring him closer to our plan. We believe that Majano, like other progressive officers, has a place in that plan.

The Threat of U.S. Intervention

[Question] What about Reagan?

[Answer] We have always said that we would launch the offensive before his installation in the White House on 20 January. We are now convinced that when Reagan comes to power there will be a different situation in El Salvador. He will have to take that into account. Imperialism's aggressiveness and the political and economic interests Reagan represents force us to envisage the possibility of a U.S. military adventure. There is no question of us lowering our guard. We are fighting to prevent an intervention. We are appealing to the democratic governments and the peoples of all continents: Intervention must be rendered impossible.

[Question] Some observers think that the war in El Salvador will go on indefinitely...

[Answer] They are wrong. We intend to win in a relatively short time to spare our people a bloodbath. We are the only possible alternative, not only for the working class and the peasants but for the entire nation.

RIVERA Y DAMAS COMMENTS ON DOMESTIC SITUATION

PY141303 Sao Raulo Radio Bendeirantes in Portuguese 1000 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Telephone statement to Radio Bandeirantes journalist (Elias Jose) by San Salvador Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas--recorded, in Spanish; date and place not given]

[Text] The situation is normal in the city of San Salvador, even though the Revolutionary Democratic Front had called for a general strike. It seems, however, that movement within the city is normal. I have had to leave my home to carry out religious duties and I have been able to see that everything seems to be going on properly.

Clashes took place on Sunday and Saturday and there were many deaths, but now the armed forces have regained control over the cities where these clashes took place and life is returning to normal.

The highways have been cut in several places but the holes and gaps are being filled now to allow the normal flow of traffic.

I believe that the people have failed to respond to the call for general uprising because for a long time now the people have been feeling that war is not the proper solution for the political problems which the country is facing.

The church is greatly concerned about all this. It is possible that at one time many members of the church saw war as the solution to the problems, but they have been amending their views and the church has tried to steer a middle course of critical detachment from both the Revolutionary Democratic Front and the government. However, the church is stepping up its efforts to provide aid to the needy by giving shelter, distributing medicine, supplies and foodstuffs. It has also continued its mission of encouraging, instilling hope and providing support to the most needy.

We have tried to do all this even though there are fewer and fewer of us each day, since some have left because of threats or illness, others have broken down under the prolonged strain and have gone away for a few days rest. In any case, despite the fact that we are few, we are doing what we can and the nuns and laymen are stepping in to help the needy.

Although we cannot say at this point that the final offensive has collapsed, I believe that it has not received the popular support which many expected. I feel that this is the proper time for a negotiated solution, a dialog between the DRU, that is the Unified Revolutionary Directorate, and the government. I understand that both sides probably have reasons to say that the time is not right, but this is what I feel, because otherwise the solution which the majority of the Salvadoran people fervently hope for will not be attained.

MINISTER DENIES SUSPENSION OF LANICA FLIGHTS

PA142342 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 14 Jan 81 pp 3, 29

[Excerpt] The public works minister said yesterday that LANICA [Nicaraguan] Airlines flights have not been suspended at any time. He added that the companies operating in the country continue handling their traffic normally according to their authorized schedules. The reports about the cancellation of LANICA's flights were received from Managua in a UPI dispatch and from Mexico in a LATIN dispatch.

GUATEMALA

GUERRILLAS AMBUSH TRUCK, INFLICT CASUALTIES

PA150200 Paris AFP in Spanish 2236 GMT 13 Jan 81

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Jan (AFP)--It was officially reported here today that a military truck was ambushed on Monday by a group of guerrillas on the highway from this capital to Quezaltenango, in western Guatemala.

An army communique states that "the rebels exploded a Claymore-type mine" while the government vehicle was on its way to carry out an "administrative" mission.

However, the subversives "did not achieve their expected goal, giving the soldiers the opportunity to repel the attack," adds the communique.

The report states that "the military personnel acted vigorously, forcing the guerrillas to flee, but not without first exploding another mine."

The government report explains that, as a result of the attack, three military personnel had been wounded and "it is believed that there were also casualties among the guerrillas," but this has not been confirmed.

Local television also reported that there had been casualties in the government group, but did not give the source of its information.

HONDURAS

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON SALVADORAN CONFLICT

PA141635 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Gustavo Rubil interview with Honduran Defense Minister Col Mario Flores Theresin on 13 January--recorded]

[Text] [Question] (?Labor sectors) have said that the Honduran Army might intervene in the Salvadoran armed conflict. What do you have to say?

[Answer] I think [words indistinct] is reckless because throughout its history, Honduras and particularly our armed forces [words indistinct] because each country has the right to establish the government it wants. That is up to each country. As I said, this is our tradition. We are firmly opposed to intervening in the affairs of others.

[Question] (?A newspaper) has published a report that the Salvadoran and Honduran Armies will begin patrols to put a stop to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

[Answer] I think this is completely false. We do not have any kind of commitment with any army within or outside the region. Therefore, I think this is just one more lie [words indistinct].

[Question] Is the Honduran Army still a member of the Permanent Commission of the Central American Defense Council [COPECODECA[?

[Answer] COPECODECA was originally made up of all the Central American armies, with Costa Rica as an observer. But after our conflict with the sister republic of El Salvador, Honduras withdrew from this commission because it considered it to be inoperative. [Words indistinct] maintain an observer when there are sessions. We don't have any permanent representative as the name itself implies. We only send an observer when some of the meetings are held. We do not belong to COPECODECA.

[Question] Then there is no remote possibility that the Honduran Army will intervene in the Salvadoran armed conflict?

[Answer] No, (?under no circumstances). With the Central American armies we are just maintaining the natural relations that exist between the armed institutes of various countries.

[Question] Then (?how do you view) the alleged intervention of the Honduran Army in the Salvadoran conflict?

[Answer] I definitely do not see any. I repeat: We respect all the international treaties that our country has signed and [words indistinct]. [sentence indistinct]

[Question] Another rumor is that the Honduran Army is repressive and violates human rights. What is your comment?

[Answer] (?This makes me laugh) because we have always been and will continue to be respectful of human rights.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO ON NICARAGUAN GUERRILLAS IN EL SALVADOR

PA142226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2130 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Managua, 14 Jan (AFP)--Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel d'Escoto described here this afternoon a report that two barges full of guerrillas from Nicaragua had landed in El Salvador as a "complete invention."

D'Escoto added that his government cannot prevent Nicaraguans from "voluntarily joining the defense of the Salvadoran people."

"I said in Ecuador that it is not unusual for Nicaraguan guerrillas to be in El Salvador participating in the struggle the Salvadoran people are waging for their liberation," d'Escoto stressed.

The Nicaraguan foreign minister added that "what is indeed true is that there are North American mercenaries in El Salvador and there is evidence that mercenaries from Central American countries adjoining the Salvadoran territory, including former Somozist guardsmen, are participating in the struggle."

D'Escoto said that "a difference must be made between a mercenary, who struggles in another country for a salary or for pay, and a guerrilla, who struggles out of solidarity with a people pursuing their liberation or ideals."

The senior official said "these rumors can be the justification for a U.S. intervention."

"Such an intervention," he said in concluding, "would be a reprehensible action. However, it is best to be prudent and to wait to see what happens."

NEW MILITIA BATTALIONS FORMED IN MANAGUA, ESTELI

PA150155 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Jan 81

[Text] Just 40 hours after Commander Eden Pastora made an appeal to 200,000 compatriots to join the militias, the people have responded. Work centers in the cities and the rural areas are reporting to the National Militia headquarters that new battalions are being formed.

Esteli is one of the cities which yesterday reported to the National Militia headquarters that two new battalions had been formed. Two days ago, the Leon Departmental Militia headquarters reported that two of its battalions of Sandinist militiamen, made up of workers and peasants, had departed for the north to participate in the pursuit of counterrevolutionary bands.

Meanwhile, back here in Managua, workers in factories, shops and other enterprises are organizing in the popular Sandinist militias in order to better defend their revolution.

BRIEFS

COFFEE PRODUCTION--Jose Angel Buitrago, director of the Nicaraguan Coffee Institute, INCAFE, has stated that during the present coffee harvest season, Nicaragua will harvest 1.24 million quintals of coffee, which represents $140 million. The INCAFE official noted that 50 percent of the present harvest has already been sold at good prices in international markets, with the GDR being the country which has purchased the largest amount. Nicaragua is selling coffee to socialist countries that are new coffee clients. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Jan 81 PA]